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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part XI)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on the item was considered at the 30th, 32nd and 35th meetings, on 29 November and 7 and 13 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.30, 32 and 35).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.45

2. At the 30th meeting, on 29 November, the representatives of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/49/L.45).

3. At the 32nd meeting, on 7 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and revised it as follows:

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

(a) Operative paragraphs 4 and 5 were combined with the word "and" and the subsequent paragraphs renumbered accordingly;

(b) In the revised operative paragraph 4, the words "for consideration" were inserted after the words "to propose". The phrase "and that are ripe for consideration or negotiation in the spirit of renewed dialogue and partnership" were deleted and the words "which are" were inserted before the words "also relevant";

(c) In the former operative paragraph 6, in the first line the words "working group on the agenda for development to give consideration to the proposal of the" were inserted before the words "Secretary-General" and the words "further elaborate his proposal of" were deleted. Also at the beginning of the second line, the word "taking" was replaced by the word "take".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.45, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.49 and L.75

5. At the 30th meeting, on 29 November, the representatives of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations conference on South-South cooperation" (A/C.2/49/L.49), which read:

"United Nations conference on South-South cooperation

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the validity of the objectives and commitments with regard to international economic cooperation and development adopted by the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies, especially the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 1/ the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 2/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 3/ the

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

3/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

Declaration on the Right to Development, 4/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 5/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 6/ the Cartagena Commitment, 7/ the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 8/ and Agenda 21, 9/ which provide an overall framework for furthering international economic cooperation for development,

"Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77, 10/ adopted on the occasion of the eighteenth annual Meeting of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 30 September 1994, in which the Ministers called upon the United Nations to consider convening an international conference on South-South cooperation in 1996,

"Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978 in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Development Countries 1/ as well as its resolution 48/172 of 21 December 1993 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

"Recalling its resolutions 47/181 of 22 December 1992 and 48/166 of 21 December 1993 on an agenda for development as well as its resolution 48/165 of 21 December 1993 on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

"Recalling also its resolution 46/205 of 20 December 1991 on the convening of an international conference on the financing of development as well as its resolution 47/152 of 18 December 1992 on international cooperation for economic growth and development,

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4/ Resolution 41/128, annex.

5/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

6/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

7/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

8/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex I.

9/ Ibid., annex II.

10/ A/49/462 and Corr.1, annex.

"Recalling further its resolutions 46/155 of 19 December 1991 on the report entitled The Challenge to the South: The Report of the South Commission 11/ and 48/164 of 21 December 1993 on the follow-up to that report,

"Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation, especially that between developed and developing countries, in the areas of reactivation of economic growth, eradication of poverty and debt reduction,

"Conscious that increased international support to activities in economic cooperation among developing countries and technical cooperation among developing countries will contribute significantly to the strengthening of international cooperation for a global partnership between developing and developed countries,

"Welcoming the support expressed for the convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations system to support activities in economic cooperation among developing countries and technical cooperation among developing countries,

"Recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations system to support activities in economic cooperation among developing countries and technical cooperation among developing countries and stressing the importance of continuing to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to foster international cooperation in order to address fully the wide range of issues pertaining to development and the growth of developing countries,

"Noting the ongoing work of the Secretary-General in the preparation of a report, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/164, on the state of South-South cooperation,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General, pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/166, to present to the Assembly at its fiftieth session a comprehensive overview and analysis of South-South cooperation world wide entitled "State of South-South cooperation" and containing recommendations on measures to strengthen South-South cooperation, with a view to convening an international conference on South-South cooperation in 1996;

"2. Decides to establish, in consultation with Member States, an intergovernmental ad hoc working group of experts to recommend, with a view to expanding South-South cooperation on a global scale, practical modalities and substantive issues to be discussed at the conference and to be taken into account by the Secretary-General in undertaking the above-mentioned report;

11/ New York, Oxford University Press, 1990. For an overview and summary of the report of the South Commission, see A/45/810 and Corr.1, annex.

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to convene, in consultation with Member States, a meeting of the working group in the first quarter of 1995;

"4. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 35th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko S. Raichev (Bulgaria), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.49, and orally revised the text as follows:

(a) In the eleventh line of the first preambular paragraph, before the word "which", the phrase "and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development," was inserted;

(b) In the last line of the tenth preambular paragraph, the words "all countries, particularly between" were inserted before the words "developed and developed countries".

7. The Committee heard a statement by the Secretary of the Committee on conference-servicing implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75 (see A/C.2/49/SR.35).

8. At the same meeting, the representative of Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), made a statement (see A/C.2/49/SR.35).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ukraine, Malaysia and Belarus.

11. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.49 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft decision

12. At its 35th meeting, on 13 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided without a vote to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the reports under the item on which no draft proposals had been submitted (see para. 14).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/165 of 21 December 1993 on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

Noting with interest the reports of the Secretary-General on an agenda for development, as requested in its resolutions 47/181 of 22 December 1992 and 48/166 of 21 December 1993, 12/

Noting with interest also the role of the Secretary-General in encouraging all countries to engage in a constructive dialogue for advancing development and in facilitating their efforts in that regard,

Stressing the importance of a fruitful dialogue to ensure a favourable political and economic environment for advancing international cooperation for development,

1. Welcomes with appreciation the note by the Secretary-General on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership; 13/

2. Reaffirms the need to strengthen constructive dialogue and partnership in order to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

3. Also reaffirms that such a dialogue should be conducted in response to the imperatives of mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as improving the international economic environment that is conducive to such development, and that the United Nations system should play a central role in facilitating such a dialogue;

4. Further reaffirms that the United Nations has a central role to play in promoting international cooperation for development and in bringing development issues to the attention of the international community, and requests the Secretary-General, drawing upon statements made by Member States on various economic and social issues within the context of the debates on those issues held in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, to propose for consideration various issues or themes that represent mutual interests, which would involve benefit to all countries, and which are also relevant to the elaboration of an agenda for development;

12/ A/48/689; A/48/935; A/49/665.

13/ A/49/542.

5. Invites the working group on the agenda for development to give consideration to the proposal of the Secretary-General to take advantage of the presence of high-level representatives during the early part of the sessions of the General Assembly to conduct a dialogue and to convene special sessions of the Assembly on major themes relevant to the current and emerging economic and social issues in the global agenda, including those identified under the agenda for development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations conference on South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the validity of the objectives and commitments with regard to international economic cooperation and development adopted by the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies, especially the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 14/ the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 15/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 16/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 17/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 18/ the Cartagena

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14/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

15/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

16/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

17/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

18/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Commitment, 19/ the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 20/ and Agenda 21, 21/ and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 22/ which provide an overall framework for furthering international economic cooperation for development,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77, 23/ adopted on the occasion of the eighteenth annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 30 September 1994, in which the Ministers called upon the United Nations to consider convening an international conference on South-South cooperation in 1996,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 14/ as well as its resolution 48/172 of 21 December 1993 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Recalling its resolutions 47/181 of 22 December 1992 and 48/166 of 21 December 1993 on an agenda for development, as well as its resolution 48/165 of 21 December 1993 on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

Recalling also its resolution 46/205 of 20 December 1991 on the convening of an international conference on the financing of development, as well as its resolution 47/152 of 18 December 1992 on international cooperation for economic growth and development,

Recalling further its resolution 46/155 of 19 December 1991 on the report entitled The Challenge to the South: The Report of the South Commission 24/ and resolution 48/164 of 21 December 1993 on the follow-up to that report,

Taking note of the Tokyo Declaration adopted at the International Conference on African Development held at Tokyo in 1993, which emphasizes the

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19/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

20/ Report of the United Nations, Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex I.

21/ Ibid., annex II.

22/ A/CONF.171/13 and Add.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

23/ A/49/462 and Corr.1, annex.

24/ New York, Oxford University Press, 1990. For an overview and summary of the report of the South Commission, see A/45/810 and Corr.1, annex.

importance of strengthening cooperative links among developing countries for sharing their experience and know-how, and welcoming the convening of an Asia-Africa Forum in Indonesia from 12 to 16 December 1994,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation, especially that between developed and developing countries, as well as other international directions of such cooperation,

Conscious of the need for enhanced collaboration between developing countries themselves in the fields of economic, technical and South-South cooperation,

Conscious that increased international support to activities in economic and technical cooperation among developing countries will contribute significantly to the strengthening of international cooperation for a global partnership between all countries, particularly between developing and developed countries,

Welcoming the increased role undertaken by the United Nations system to support activities in economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, and stressing the importance of continuing to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to foster international cooperation in order to address fully the wide range of issues pertaining to development and the growth of developing countries,

Noting the ongoing work of the Secretary-General in the preparation of a report, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/164, on the state of South-South cooperation,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/164, to submit to the Assembly at its fiftieth session a comprehensive report containing an overview and analysis of South-South cooperation world wide, to be entitled "State of South-South cooperation" and also containing recommendations to strengthen such cooperation, keeping in view the proposal to convene a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation;

2. Requests the High-level Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, at its ninth session from 30 May to 3 June 1995, to include in its agenda an item entitled "New directions for technical cooperation among developing countries";

3. Decides to convene, in consultation with Member States, an intergovernmental meeting of experts in New York in 1995, within existing resources or utilizing extrabudgetary resources, to recommend, taking into account the outcomes of the meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Standing Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries and the High-level Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and with a view to expanding South-South cooperation on a global

scale, practical modalities and substantive issues to be taken into account by the Secretary-General in undertaking the above-mentioned report.

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14. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Secretary-General on the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development and note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "A review of the specific development needs of small Member States and the responsiveness of the United Nations development system to these needs"

The General Assembly decides to take note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development; 25/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "A review of the specific development needs of small Member States and the responsiveness of the United Nations development system to these needs". 26/

25/ A/49/378.

26/ A/49/424 and Add.1.